

December 21, 1999

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Ms. Shalala, Secretary
U.S. Dept. Health Human Services
200 Independence Ave. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I am writing to you because I am deeply concerned about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food that is being considered by the Food and Drug Administration. I truly believe that I have the right to know if the food that I serve my family has been treated with radiation, or genetically engineered in any way!

As the mother of four children, I am looking to the future generations' health. I want to know that the food I purchase is safe. I do not want to hear ten years from now that genetically altered products will cause problems in human's health, or the health of our environment. We are all brothers and sisters on this planet! These big companies do not have the right to make their profits while gambling with our safety and health. Food products undergo chemical changes after exposure to radioactive isotopes. Labels are required by law to tell consumers when this has been done to the food contained within. Only clear, honest and permanent labeling is acceptable for irradiated foods.

I hope that you will defend the consumer's right to know in this important decision-making process.

Sincerely, *Ellen Karnowski*

Ellen Karnowski

5591 KONOCTI Terrace

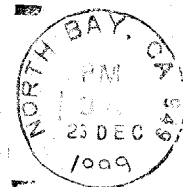
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(707) 279-9652

cc: Wes Chesbro, Senate

Mike Thompson, House

98N-1038



Donna Shalala, Secretary
U.S. Dept. of Health, Human Service
200 Independence Ave. S. W.
Washington, D.C.

